

ABSTRACT

To use the memory space more effectively, cell memory can be shared by an input link and all output links. To prevent one flow from occupying the entire memory space, a threshold may be provided for the queue. The queue threshold may accommodate the RTT delay of the link. Queue length information about a downstream switch module may be sent to an upstream switch module via cell headers in every credit update period per link. Cell and/or credit loss may be recovered from. Increasing the credit update period reduces the cell header bandwidth but doesn't degrade performance significantly. Sending a credit per link simplifies implementation and eliminates interference between other links.